HAVING MET THAT PERSON, I THOUGHT "I CAN LIVE..."
NOEL
HE WAS PICKED UP BY THE KOSA FAMILY'S SON, RIKKA, AND BECAME HIS "CHILD". AN EXPERT WITH KNIVES AND COOKING, AND THEREFORE CALLED 'THE KOSA CHEF'.
INFERNO
インフェルノ
STORY
CHAPTER 2

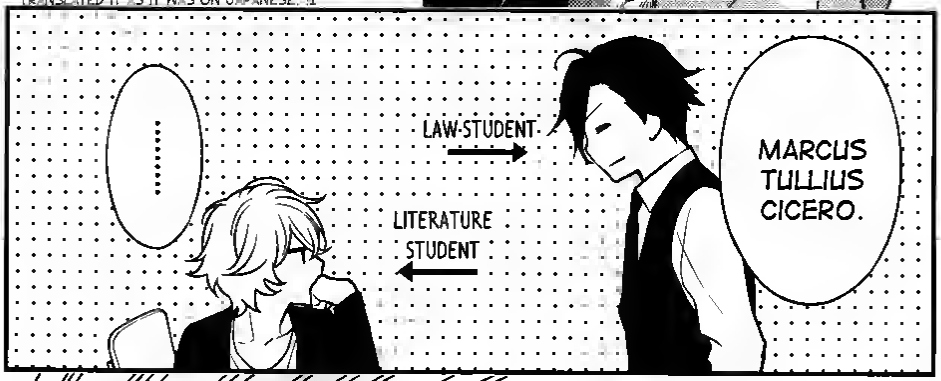
IN THE PAST THIS PLACE WAS THE CAPITAL OF A DEVELOPED COUNTRY.
HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF A STRANGE VIRUS THAT WAS VERY CONTAGIOUS, THE POPULATION IN JAPAN RAPIDLY DECREASED AND THE GOVERMENT HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT THE IMMIGRANTS.
IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS...
SINCE THE VIRUS KILLED THE MIND BEFORE THE BODY, IT WAS CALLED THE "DOLL DISEASE" AND ITS CURE IS YET TO BE FOUND. BECAUSE THE WEALTHY HATE THINGS LIKE DIRT WATER AND LAND, THEY BUILT AN ENORMOUS ISLAND IN TOKYO BAY.
A NEW CENTRAL TOWN - THE SEVEN ANGLED STAR ALSO KNOWN AS *SEVEN*.
THE MAFIA TOOK OVER THE ABANDONED MAINLAND AND THE PEOPLE WITH SARCASM STARTED CALLING THE FORMER CAPITAL WHICH WAS NOW A ENORMOUS SLUM...
"THE RAGE PRISON"

I HAVE FOUR JACKS.
HMMM...
IT'S HIS VICTORY, ISN'T IT~
HMN.
YOU'RE A CHEATER.
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO LOSE A GAME TO YOU.
YEAH.
WELL, A WIN IS A WIN.

AND YET,
YOU PURPOSELY LET HIM WIN DIDN'T YOU?
OLIVE KOSA
RIKKA'S UNCLE
OW-OW--OUCH! IT HURTS!
<!!
<!!
<!!
.....
WELL, WHAT-EVER.
SOMETIMES A FATHER HAS TO LET HIS SON WIN A GAME OF CARDS.
RIKKA KOSA
KOSA FAMILY'S SON
INDEED.
YOUR KINDNESS IS TRULY APPRECIATED, FATHER.
NOEL
RIKKA'S SON

IT'S SO RARE FOR YOU TO ASK FOR POCKET MONEY, HUH?
THOUGH THAT'S A BIT TOO MUCH TO BE CALLED POCKET MONEY
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO GET?
WELL, THEN, I'LL BE TAKING THIS.
WELL...
I'M NOT SURE YET...
SON, IS THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU'RE HIDING FROM ME?

TN: NOT SURE ABOUT THE QUOTE, JUST TRANSLATED IT AS IT WAS ON JAPANESE. :I



AH~ AH...
I THINK HE'S PISSED.
YOU WERE BEING QUITE NAUGHTY YOU KNOW
カリキャリ
HUH...
I'VE DECIDED...
I'VE DECIDED WHAT WE'LL BE HAVING FOR DINNER TONIGHT...
I HAVE A BAD FEELING 'BOUT THIS
HUH? WHAT THAT WOULD BE?

WITH THIS I CAN SAVE ABBY!
AHH...
YES!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, NOEL!
Bebobeg
THEY ARE NOT AS WEALTHY AS THE PEOPLE LIVING IN SEVEN, BUT THEY HAVE A C-RANK LICENSE.
SO YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL.
ANYWAY, WITH THIS WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THE CLEANING ROOMS OF THE FACTORY PLANT.
YOU REALLY DID IT IN SUCH A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME.
IS THE FOSTER PARENTS' BACKGROUND RELIABLE?
AH.
YES.

THE FUCK DID YOU SAY!?
IT WAS KINDA A SUDDEN THING, OKAY?
WELL, THAT'S WHAT BUSINESS IS ABOUT.
WELL, HUH . ABOUT THAT...
A GROUP OF PEOPLE APPEARED SAYING THEY'D BUY HER FOR DOUBLE THE MONEY YOU PAID.
YOU SOLD ABBY!?
HEBIANA.
BRAD.
TELL ME WHO YOU SOLD ABBY TO!
I CAN REFUND YOU SO...
THAT'S NOT THE FUCKING PROB-LEM!!!

WHA...
AT LEAST BEING THERE IS BETTER THAN BEING HERE, IN THE ASHES OF THE SLUM.
HEBIANA.
SERIOUSLY!?
OF ALL THINGS AND IT'S THE HAKKA'S NEST!
CALM DOWN, BRAD.
HAH!?
I WAS ALSO PLANING ON GOING TO THE VALLEY ANYWAY SO EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT

TONIGHT YOU'RE MAKING SHARK-FIN SOUP!
I ABSOLUTELY WILL NOT EAT ANYTHING OTHER THAN SHARK-FIN SOUP AND CHINESE FRIED RICE!!
THE VALLEY...
BUT WAIT...
YES.
DON'T TELL ME...
HIEE
...
AS USUAL... THIS IS GOING TO A PAIN IN THE BUTT... FOR YOU AS WELL...
...
ANYWAY, LET'S GET GOING...

THE WEST SIDE OF THE RAGE PRISON.
FROM THE MEIJI SHRINE TO THE WEST, UNTIL THE OLD SHIBUYA OUTSKIRTS IS THE TERRITORY OF THE HAKKA FAMILY
NICK-NAMED AS "THE VALLEY"
THIS CITY'S BIGGEST RED-LIGHT DISTRICT
ぎゃはは
KEH.
AS USUAL THERE'S ONLY INDECENT THINGS GOING ON IN THIS PLACE
AND YET YOU COME HERE OFTEN

THE OLD SHINJUKU DISTRICT IS SO EXPENSIVE.
IF IT'S THESE GIRLS
I DON'T REALLY CARE IF MY PARTNER COMES OUT OF THE "ASHES"..
ONCE WE CHANGED TO ANOTHER TERRITORY
THOSE INFECTED WITH THE DOLL DISEASE ARE GETTING TAKEN AWAY TODAY AS WELL.
SO IT'S THIS PLACE...

YO~
CAN WE HAVE A DRINK INSIDE?
WELCOME!
HERE.
PLEASE SIT.
SURE.

USING A MEDIOCRE TEA HOUSE AS COVER
THEY MANAGE THE BOTTOM PART OF THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA SMUGGLING RING CARRYING GOODS AND ILLEGAL ITEMS FROM CHINA.
OF COURSE, THE ONES BEHIND IT ARE
THE HAKKA FAMILY.
THEY'RE CHINESE MERCHANTS WHOSE MAIN SOURCE OF MONEY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
ORGANS FROM MEN AND WOMEN ARE BEING SOLD LIKE COMMON MARKET MEAT.
THE CLIENTS ARE MAINLY FROM OVERSEAS OR PERVERTS FROM SEVEN.
キャー!!

HELLO THERE.
WHO MIGHT YOU BE...
YOU'RE NOT THE KOSA'S CHEF, ARE YOU?
YOU SURE HAVE GUTS TO SHOW YOUR FACE HERE SO NONCHALANTLY.
AFTER KILLING MY ADORABLE PET.

H-HEY... NOEL...
IS THIS GUY THE HAKKA'S HOUSEHOLD KITTEN? IT'S THE FAMOUS CHILD BROKER RIGHT?
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO?
NOTH-ING.
DON'T YOU DARE THINK THAT I'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT TIME WHEN YOU MADE MY CUTE TURTLE, LILY, INTO SOUP!
...
RATHER THAN THAT, MISTER MAO.
CAN YOU HELP US GET SHARK-FIN FOR SOUP LATER TO-NIGHT...?
BRATS LIKE YOU SHOULD JUST..
LOWER YOUR HEADS AS YOU LEAVE!
フウ...

WHA...!?
HISS
GYAAH!
UWAH!

MISTER MAO
DO YOU KNOW HOW THE COL-LECTING OF SHARK FIN WORKS?
ヒバッ
AFTER FISHING A SHARK AND CUTTING OFF THEIR FINS ON BOARD
THEY THROW THE MAIN BODY INTO THE SEA AGAIN SINCE IT'S NOT VALUABLE.
AFTER HAVING HIS FINS CUT OFF, THE SHARK...

SUFFERS AS IT DROWNS
AND BECOMES THE FOOD OF THE OTHER FISHES.
AS I THOUGHT,
YOU'RE THE KOSA'S CHEF.
MY FATHER REQUESTED TO EAT SHARK-FIN FOR DINNER TONIGHT.
WON'T YOU HELP ME PRE-PARE IT?
MISTER MAO OF THE HAKKA.

...
FINE.
BUT...
ONLY UNDER ONE CONDI-TION.
OLD SHINJUKU DISTRICT
NINE SNAKES FORTRESS
ALRIGHT, EVERYONE!

HERE WE HAVE THE NEXT ROUND FOR AUCTION.
THIS GIRL IS HALF AMERICAN AND HALF RUSSIAN.
SHE HASN'T YET BEGUN TO MENSTRUATE.
IN GOOD CONDITION, NICE BREED, EDIBLE, AND TRANSPLANTING, EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS ONE IS QUITE GOOD.
INCLUDES A B RANKED LICENSE!
WE'LL START WITH 50!
..70!
100!

EVEN IF ALL THE SLUMS WERE TO DISAPPEAR, NO ONE WOULD SUSPECT THAT THEY'RE BEING SOLD AS SLAVES FOR OTHERS' SELFISH GAINS.
ONLY THE VALLEY'S UNDERGROUND CELLAR WOULD HAVE THIS KIND OF AUCTION CRAP...
IT'S NOT JUST WHOLESOME MEAT AND A FAMILY REGISTERED PASSPORT BUT SOME SORT OF SPECIAL ADDED VALUE THAT THEY'RE TRYING TO PROVIDE.
AND THE HAKKA FAMILY IS TREATING THESE PEOPLE AS "GOODS" RATHER THAN AS ACTUAL PEOPLE.
THEY'RE BOTH MADE OF SHEEP AND COW THOUGH.
AREN'T THEY DELICIOUS?
...
THAT WOULD BE TESTICLES
NEXT TO THAT IS BRAIN TISSUE STEW
WHAT IS... THIS?

I SEE... THE PHILOSOPHY OF CHINESE FOOD IS QUITE WIDE.
"IF SOMETHING HAS FOUR LEGS AND IS NOT A CHAIR,
AND IF IT HAS TWO LEGS AND ISN'T A PARENT, THEN YOU CAN EAT IT"... RIGHT?
JUST ENJOY THE FOOD
FUFU
AFTER THIS YOU'RE GOING TO COOK YOUR SHARK-FIN SOUP IN A WAY THAT'LL KEEP ITS SHAPE, RIGHT?
真漂亮男孩
I HAVE TO GET HOME IN TIME FOR DINNER,
BUT...

NOW-- YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!
THIS IS OUR FEATURED PRODUCT!
CHILDREN WITH ADDED "PRESERVA-TIVES"!
!?
ABBY!?
THAT CHILD IS STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF TREAT-MENT.
WHA...
HOW ABOUT A DIFFERENT ONE?
ALL PEOPLE GROW OLD.
ESPECIALLY CUTE LITTLE KITTENS, THEIR TIME COMES IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.

!!
EVERY-ONE THINKS LIKE THAT ONCE RIGHT?
THAT IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THEY ALWAYS STAYED LITTLE KITTENS?
...DON'T TELL ME...
SEE, IN OUR BUSINESS THAT'S HANDED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERA-TION,
A DRUG IS ADMINISTERED OF ONE'S OWN ACCORD IN ORDER TO PUR-POSELY STOP THE SECRETION OF GROWTH HORMONES.
SOON, GROWTH STOPS AND HOWEVER MANY YEARS PASS THE APPEARANCE REMAINS THAT OF A CHILD'S...
YOU YOURSELF WENT THROUGH THE SAME.

...I WAS TREATED QUITE FONDLY BY FATHER.
BECAUSE THE DRUGS WORKED SO WELL ON ME.
THOUGH MOST DIE EARLY DUE TO SIDE EFFECTS... WHAT WITH THIS AND THAT, IT SHOULD ALREADY BE 30 YEARS SINCE I WAS ACCEPTED INTO HAKKA.
WH...
WHY!? WHY DO YOU PUT CHILDREN THROUGH THE SAME THING AS YOU!?
DON'T TREAT HUMANS LIKE ANIMALS!!
IT'S THE SAME.
A HUMAN WITHOUT A LICENSE CAN NEVER LEAVE THIS INFERNAL CAGE.
IN THAT CASE, I THINK ANY CAT WOULD BE MUCH HAPPIER AS A PET THAN A STRAY.

YOU GET WHAT I MEAN, RIGHT?
WELL THEN, I'LL BUY HER!
HERE I HAVE 500.
IT'S TOO LATE.
SHE JUST GOT SOLD TO THAT GUY OVER THERE.
I WON'T ALLOW HIM.
NOW, WHAT WOULD BE FASTER?
YOU ORDERING YOUR MEN TO SHOOT ME OR THIS KNIFE CUTTING HIS CAROTID ARTERY?

AT ANY RATE,
HAH ...!?
DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT AND THEN THINKING THAT YOU CAN JUST LEAVE THIS PLACE SAFELY?
CAN YOU GUYS AFFORD TO KEEP BRIBING THE GOVERMENT LIKE USUAL AFTER AN INCIDENT LIKE THAT?
IT WOULD RUIN THE HAKKA'S AUCTIONS' REPUTATION.
!
TSK.
I BELIEVE THE OLD HEADS FROM HAKKA HATE EXCUSES MORE THAN ANYTHING.

KYA!
HOW!?
NOW! LET'S RUN AWAY!
THE KOSA'S PET DOG!!
THAT'S...

LET'S SEE
IF YOU REALLY CAN EAT A CHAIR.
!?
W-
WHAT !?

H-HEY.
W-WHAT'RE YOU DOING...?
...
JUST FINISHING
A TASK.
I SEE SO...
ABBY IS SAFE.
YEAH AND SHE SAID THAT THE POISONING SYMPTOMS WERE WEARING OFF.
WELL IT'S JUST WHAT THE SLUM DOCTOR SAID

NOEL,
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE...
...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WELL.
DINNER IS READY.

I BET IT TOOK YOU QUITE A WHILE TO GET IT, RIGHT?
YEAH
GOOD JOB! SEEMS LIKE QUITE AN MASTER-PIECE
YOU SURE TOOK YOUR TIME TO GET IT AND MAKE A GELATIN STEW..
THIS HAS THE FLAVOR OF AN ENDAN-GERED SPECIES
Yoh
I ALREADY ATE. I WAS INVITED FOR DINNER TODAY.
DID YOU EAT OUT-SIDE?
YES.
WITH WHO?
HUH?

WELL,
THERE WAS SOME TROUBLE GETTING THE INGREDIENTS BUT .
..
THAT'S ENOUGH.
..
ガヤ
NOEL,
I THINK YOU DID SOMETHING WRONG THIS TIME TOO .
WHAT!?
バタン

FATHER,
IT WAS SOMETHING THAT I HAD TO DO ON MY OWN.
I BET...
RIKKA.
ハァ
GOING TO THE SLUMS
WAS NOSTAL-GIC.
I BET YOU HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS OVER THERE, HUH?
AND YET
I'M FORCING YOU AGAINST YOUR WILL TO BE HERE...

"ALL THINGS IN THE PAST DISAPPEAR,"
"THE ONLY THING THAT REMAINS IS VIRTUE."
TO ME THE SLUMS ARE A NOSTALGIC PAST, BUT BECAUSE OF THAT
I NEVER REGRET BEING BY YOUR SIDE
YOU ARE NOW MY SON!
DID YOU FORGET?
FATHER?

...
OF COURSE, I HAVEN'T.
THE SHARK FIN SOUP.
I DIDN'T GET TO EAT THE SHARK-FIN SOUP SO MAKE IT AGAIN LATER.
YES.
BUT NEXT TIME, GET THE INGREDIENTS FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE.
...YES.
CRAP! I WANT A SUBORDINATE LIKE HIM TOO!
TO BE CONTINUED

It wasn't just selfishness. It was everything within Rikka's prediction!!

I CAN'T STAND THAT GUY.

AQUA SCANS
PRESENTS
Inferno c.2
RW: SHIRO
ED: MIZUOUJI & JELLIE MONKEH
TL: RINRIN & EXIAH
PR: BLUMESA & OKAYSKY
QC: MIZUOUJI
HTTP://AQUASCANS.WORDPRESS.COM/